

Patent ClaimsWHAT IS CLAIMED, IS

1. Method for changing the output delay of audio or video
5 data encoding, wherein input time stamps are generated
which become linked with audio or video data to be en-
coded and are used to control the delay of the encoding
process, wherein output time stamps are derived from the
10 input time stamps by using a data delay constant and are
assigned to the encoded data for indicating the output
time, and wherein the encoded data with assigned output
time stamps are buffered before output, **characterised** in
that for a change of the output delay said data delay
15 constant is changed, that already assigned output time
stamps remain unchanged and that for data for which out-
put time stamps are not already assigned, the output time
stamps are calculated using the new data delay constant.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein during a gap in the
20 sequence of output time stamps appearing at delay in-
crease, stuffing data or zero data or even no data are
sent.
3. Method according to claim 1, wherein for data with same
25 or overlapping output time stamps appearing at delay re-
duction, the later data indicating output time stamps
that are already passed are discarded.
4. Method according to any of claims 1, wherein for delay
30 reduction no further data are written into the output de-
lay buffer beginning with the delay change request for a
time duration corresponding to the difference between the
old data delay constant and the new data delay constant,
and wherein the new data delay constant is used for the
35 calculation of the output time stamps for all following
data.

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5. Method according to claim 1, wherein discontinuities of the audio or video data are softened by the encoder.
6. Method according to claim 1, wherein the discontinuities are softened by fading in before the gap or skipped part and fading out after the gap or skipped part.
7. Apparatus for performing a method according to claim 1.

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